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Australia

Agricultural Situation

Call for Submissions to Quarantine & Biosecurity Review

2008

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Report Highlights:

Further to the announcement on February 19, 2008 by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, that an independent review of Australia's quarantine & biosecurity systems would be taking place, an issues paper and call for submissions have now been released. **Stakeholders have until April 11, 2008 to make a submission.**

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Annual Report Canberra [AS1] [AS] Ref: AS8004

Background

On February 19, 2008 Tony Burke, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, announced an independent review of Australia's quarantine & biosecurity systems (for details see AS8004). This will be the first major review of quarantine and biosecurity since the review by Professor Malcolm Nairn which was conducted in 1995. An issues paper and call for submissions have now been released.

Call for Submissions & Issues Paper

Farmers, conservationists, food importers and exporters, transport operators, governments and government agencies are among the many stakeholders being asked by the Quarantine and Biosecurity Review Panel to make submissions to the review of Australia's quarantine and biosecurity arrangements.

The independent review, announced in February by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Tony Burke, is now receiving submissions from affected and interested parties. **Stakeholders have until Friday 11 April 2008 to make a submission.** Details on how to make a submission are available from the Quarantine and Biosecurity Review's website - www.quarantinebiosecurityreview.qov.au/consultation.

Mr. Roger Beale AO, Chair of the Review Panel, said "We are going to consult widely to seek advice, and the full range of views from interested parties.

An Issues Paper is available to provide guidance for those preparing their input to the review. The paper can be downloaded from www.guarantinebiosecurityreview.gov.au/issues_paper.

The Issues Paper poses some specific questions of particular interest to the panel and highlights a number of issues to spark discussion. However, the panel advise that interested parties should not feel constrained by the identified topics and that they would welcome stakeholders drawing any relevant matters to their attention.

Following the formal submission period, the Panel will travel to each state and territory to conduct focused forums in an effort to hear stakeholder views.

The Panel is due to deliver its report and recommendations to Minister Burke by July 31, 2008.

Further information on the review can be found at the Review Secretariat's website: www.quarantinebiosecurityreview.gov.au.

The Review Secretariat can also be contacted directly on <u>quarantinebiosecurityreview@daff.gov.au</u>.

Source: Quarantine & Biosecurity Review media release.

Recent Reports from FAS/Canberra

The reports listed below can all be downloaded from the FAS website at: http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/AttacheRep/default.asp.

Report Number	Title of Report	Date
AS8008	Commencement of IRA for Stone Fruit Announced	03/14/08
AS8006	Draft Wheat Export Marketing Bill Released	03/06/08
AS8005	Wine Annual	02/26/08
AS8004	Government Announces Review of Australia's Quarantine & Biosecurity Processes	02/21/08
AS8002	Productivity Commission Invites Further Submissions to Pork Safeguards Inquiry	01/23/08
AS8001	Impact of Grain Prices on GOA Policy	01/11/08
AS7076	Productivity Commission Release Accelerated Report into Pigmeat Safeguards	12/21/07
AS7075	Bulk Wheat Export Applications	12/13/07
AS7074	Potato Report	12/11/07
AS7072	Ag Down Under Vol. 14	12/06/07
AS7071	GM Moratoria to be Lifted in Two States	11/29/07
AS7070	Cotton Quarterly Update	11/29/07
AS7069	Ag Down Under Vol. 13	11/26/07
AS7068	Fresh Deciduous Fruit Report	11/21/07
AS7067	Retail Sector Report	11/08/07
AS7066	Citrus Annual	11/07/07
AS7065	Ag Down Under Vol. 12	11/02/07
AS7063	Dairy & Products Annual	10/24/07
AS7062	Issues Paper – Safeguards Inquiry into Imports of Pig Meat	10/24/07
AS7061	Govt. Announces Safeguards Inquiry into Imports of Pig Meat	10/22/07
AS7060	ALP Wheat Marketing Proposal	10/15/07
AS7059	Ag Down Under Vol. 11, 2007	10/15/07
AS7058	Export Wheat Commission Established	10/15/07
AS7057	Sugar Semi-Annual	10/10/07
AS7056	Biosecurity Australia – Transitional Arrangements for Import Work Program	10/09/07
AS7055	October Grain Lockup	09/28/07
AS7054	Ag Down Under Vol. 10, 2007	09/21/07
AS7053	Livestock Annual	09/20/07
AS7050	Ag Down Under Vol. 9, 2007	08/31/07
AS7049	Australia Battles Equine Influenza Outbreak	08/28/07
AS7048	New Import Conditions for Seafood Products	08/20/07
AS7047	New Regulations for Applying to Amend the Food Standards Code	08/20/07
AS7046	Cotton Quarterly Update	08/20/07
AS7045	New Report Released Supporting GM Crops	08/20/07
AS7044	FAIRS Export Certificate Report	08/20/07
AS7043	Exporter Guide	08/15/07
AS7042	Ag Down Under Vol. 8, 2007	08/06/07
AS7041	Grain Quarterly Update	08/01/07
AS7040	FAIRS Country Report	07/31/07